



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

OCT 10 2019

The Honorable Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
6602 Abercorn Street
Savannah, Georgia 31405

Dear Congressman Carter:

Thank you for your September 25, 2019 letter on behalf of your constituent, Ms. Ashley Davis, concerning the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's enforcement actions involving her company, Ocean Petroleum, Inc., in Brunswick, Georgia. Your letter was forwarded to the EPA Region 4 office in Atlanta, Georgia, for response.

The EPA has been working with Ocean Petroleum, Inc. for the past four years to return the Brunswick facility to compliance with oil spill prevention rules, including the Spill Prevention Control & Countermeasure and the Facility Response Plan regulations. During previous conversations, the EPA offered the company an opportunity to submit financial documentation for an ability to pay (ATP) analysis. If the EPA concludes that the company has an inability to pay the proposed penalty, the EPA may offer a schedule for payment over time or a reduction in the total penalty amount. For information on how to submit documentation for an ATP analysis, please contact Mr. Stephen Smith, EPA Region 4 Office of Regional Counsel, at (404) 562-9554.

Additionally, the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act (SBREFA) provides small businesses with the opportunity to submit comments on regulatory enforcement at the time of an Agency enforcement activity. Instructions for submitting comments, as well as information on compliance assistance that may be available to the facility if it qualifies as a small business under SBREFA regulations, is available on our website at: <http://www2.epa.gov/compliance/small-business-resources-information-sheet>.

The EPA will continue to work with Ms. Davis to achieve compliance at the facility. If Ms. Davis has questions about the oil spill prevention rules or compliance assistance, she may reach out to Stephen Smith at the telephone number above or John Goodwin at (404) 562-8488. If you have additional concerns or need any additional information from the EPA, please contact me or Brandi Jenkins in the Region 4 Office of Outreach and External Engagement at (404) 562-8327.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary S. Walker", is positioned above the typed name.

Mary S. Walker
Regional Administrator